

MR. DABBS ON THE LYNCHING.

Reasons For Defending the Shooting.

To the Editor of the Item:

I do not know that it is worth while to pursue the subject further, but I would like to make one or two points clear upon which you seem to think I was not informed. I read your account, in the issue of the 8th, of the capture of Simon Cooper carefully. In it you said that he came out of the back door, hands above his head and without his rifle. Was surrounded and several men looked for rope to tie him. Cooper made two or three attempts to drop his hands, but was ordered to hold them up unless he wanted to be killed. Turning on them who ordered him to keep his hands up, he cursed them in the most outrageous terms. One man said to him "Don't you curse me." Cooper ran towards him, dropping his hands at the same moment saying: "G—d—n you—I'll kill you." Just at the same moment he was shot in the head with a pistol, and as he reeled another person shot him in the side of the head with a shotgun loaded with buck-shot. If that account is correct, and I think it must be, (although in recounting it in Monday's paper you change it slightly) what in the name of common sense was there to do, but shoot him down?

But even if the above account is in error and it occurred exactly as you relate in Monday's paper, there was no breach of faith with him to shoot him when he struggled to get away from the men who were holding him. His efforts to get at his pistol and razor were violative of his surrender. Besides, he never accepted the terms of surrender when he came out with a pistol and razor on his person, and concealed at that. The men who shot him may not have known he was armed; but his efforts to get his hands down looked that way, and they acted upon the impulse of the moment. Possibly, he might have been secured, lodged in jail, tried and convicted and legally hanged, but it is more probable that he would have gotten out his weapons and after wounding or killing some of the men nearest to him, killed himself, unless quickly shot. And in shooting him in such a scuffle several others would likely have been shot by each other.

It is easy enough, Mr. Editor, to see how much better a thing might have been done, but how few of us do it the best way when we are at it? Therefore, I say, when you reflect upon it further, you will not condemn the men who shot Simon Cooper.

As to the subsequent hanging and shooting a dying dead, though he was, and more horrible still parading his mutilated body on Main Street and holding it up to be photographed, nothing can be said in extenuation. It was an outcropping of the savage instincts which are latent in nearly all men, but just the same loathsome, even to those who participate, when they have time to reflect.

In conclusion, Mr. Editor, condemn in such terms as you think will do most good, such horrible exhibitions; but you will accomplish more good and do more to make lynching impossible, if you can so stir up public sentiment that the officers of the law will not dare to allow criminals to run at large. Respectfully,

E. W. DABBS

MR. RHAME AT THE BAR.

Criticised By a Citizen of Magnolia.

Mr. Editor: In The Item of the 9th inst, notice an article from Mr. W. F. Rhame, which he says, "Simon Cooper was murdered by his captors. I have no knowledge of who the guilty parties are. Some of our good people maybe, for passion is strong and drives good men to commit acts of which they become heartily ashamed in cooler moments."

I suppose Mr. Rhame would be ashamed to kill a man who had gone to his, or his neighbors house and killed in the most brutal manner, innocent women and feeble old men without any excuse. I suppose he would have our boys in the future not to take our example, but handle in the most careful manner and use every means possible to give justice to any who may commit rape and murder in any manner. Mr. Rhame says "that the killing of Cooper was more than useless."

I suppose Mr. Rhame thinks in the goodness of his heart that men must have no limit of endurance under any circumstance however horrible, but stand aside and say, "I thank the Lord I am not as other men are." He further says, "And then to add to the crime committed by our people the murder was accompanied by breach of faith."

If there was any breach of faith it seems to me to have been on the part of Cooper for having agreed to come out of the house with hands up and unarmed. When lo! and behold! he has a razor and pistol and is the first to show fight. Mr. Rhame, I suppose would have let him killed several more before he would have even tied him. Mr. Rhame also asked, "Does crime pay?" I don't think the crime committed by Cooper at Lynchburg paid him or will pay any man who wishes to take up for him.

But Mr. Rhame knows the manner in which Cooper met his death will be a lesson taught for good showing that such dastardly deeds as that needs and merits just such treatment.

Again he says: "The bloody drama enacted this afternoon hurts society far more than Cooper's horrible deeds." It seems to me that a man of Mr. Rhame's intelligence should think for a moment of such a comparison. I suppose he thinks the betterment of society depends on carefully guarding the lives of those who by blackest crimes seek to destroy it.

And lastly he says, "If we are patriotic and love our country, if we desire the prosperity of its people, if we hope to win God's blessings, then such crimes as were committed to-day by the mob must be made impossible in South Carolina." I suppose he means by that we can only get prosperity by letting crimes of any character be as little shock as possible to society and letting the perpetrators of such be the object of especial protection. Furthermore, I want Mr. Rhame to understand that there are certain crimes for which lynching should always be the penalty, and it be or any other man thinks he can prevent it he is mistaken. Some men's feelings don't go any further than the portals of their own homes and such men should not try to influence the actions of others, especially in regard to punishment of crimes. I hope Mr. Rhame will reflect for a moment before attempting to give advice which no man worthy to be a citizen of South Carolina can take.

JOSEPH SANEDRS

Magnolia, S. C., Jan. 12, 1897.

The progressive ladies of Westfield, Ind., issued a "Woman's Edition" of the Westfield News, bearing date of April 3, 1896. The paper is filled with matter of interest to women, and we notice the following from a correspondent, which the editors printed, realizing that it treats upon a matter of vital importance to their sex: "The best remedy for croup, colds and bronchitis is Cough Remedy. For family use it has no equal. I gladly recommend it." 25 and 50 cent bottles for sale by Dr. A. J. China.

Potash

is a necessary and important ingredient of complete fertilizers. Crops of all kinds require a properly balanced manure. The best

Fertilizers

contain a high percentage of Potash.

All about Potash—the results of its use by actual experiment on the best farms in the United States—is told in a little book which we publish and will gladly mail free to any farmer in America who will write for it.

GERMAN KALI WORKS,

93 Nassau St., New York.

\$500 REWARD.

We will pay the above reward for any case of Liver Complaint, Dyspepsia, Sick Headache, Indigestion, Constipation or Costiveness we cannot cure with West's Vegetable Liver Pills, when the directions are strictly complied with. They are purely Vegetable, and never fail to give satisfaction. Sugar Coated. Large boxes, 25 cents. Beware of counterfeits and imitations. The genuine manufactured only by THE JOHN C. WEST COMPANY, Chicago, Ill.

For sale in Sumter by J. F. W. DeLorme.

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FOR EITHER SEX. This remedy being injected directly to the seat of those diseases of the Genito-Urinary Organs, requires no change of diet. Cure guaranteed in 1 to 3 days. Small plain package, by mail, \$1.00. Sold only by

J. F. W. DeLORME, Sumter, S. C.

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CURE

LADIES DO YOU KNOW

DR. FELIX LE BRUN'S Steel & Pennyroyal Pills are the original and only FRENCH safe and reliable cure on the market. Price, \$1.00, sent by mail. Genuine sold only by

For sale by J. F. W. DeLorme, Sumter, S. C.

HARBY & CO.,

WHOLESALE BROKERS,

—AND—

Cotton Storage Warehouse

PROPRIETORS.

UP-TOWN OFFICE:

COURT HOUSE SQUARE,

1,000 Tons High Grade Am-

moniated Fertilizer,

1,000 Tons Acid with Potash

500 Tons Dissolved Bone,

500 Tons German Kainit,

400 Tons C. S. Meal,

For Sale.

We are prepared to meet

any and all prices for STAND-

ARD GOODS. Get our prices

before purchasing.

Respectfully,

HARBY & CO.

Dec. 18.

TAX RETURNS

FOR 1896-97.

OFFICE OF COUNTY AUDITOR SUMTER

COUNTY.

SUMTER, S. C., Nov. 27, 1896.

RETURNS of all Personal Property and

Real Estate Taxes will be received at this

office from January 1st, 1897, to January

12th, 1897, and at the following times and

places:

Mayesville, Tuesday, January 12th.

Reid's Mill, Wednesday, January 13.

Mannville, Thursday, January 14th.

Smithville, Friday, January 15th.

Mechanicsville, Saturday, Jan. 16th.

Kingman's Store, Monday, Jan. 18.

Rembert's Store, Tuesday, Jan. 19.

Hagood, Wednesday, January 20th.

Stateburg, Thursday, January 21st.

Wedgetfield, Friday, January 22nd.

R. I. Manning's, Saturday, Jan. 23d.

J. M. Tindal's, Monday, Jan. 25th.

Bishopville, Tuesday and Wednes-

day, January 26th and 27th.

Magnolia, Thursday, January 28th.

Lynchburg, Friday, January 29th.

Concord, Saturday, January 30th.

Johnston's Store, Monday, Feb. 1st.

Shiloh, Tuesday, February 2nd.

And at Auditor's office in the City

Atlantic Coast Line.

WILMINGTON, COLUMBIA AND AUGUSTA RAILROAD.

CONDENSED SCHEDULE.

TRAINS GOING SOUTH.

Dated Dec. 13, 1896.

No. 55. No. 51.

P. M.

Leave Wilmington

Leave Marion

Arrive Florence

P. M. A. M.

Leave Florence

Arrive Sumter

P. M. A. M.

Leave Sumter

Arrive Columbia

No. 52 runs through from Charleston to

Central R. R., leaving Lanes 8:34 a. m., Man-

ning 9:10 a. m.

TRAINS GOING NORTH.

No. 54. No. 53.

A. M. P. M.

Leave Columbia

Arrive Sumter

Leave Sumter

Arrive Florence

Leave Florence

Leave Marion

Arrive Wilmington

*Daily. †Daily except Sunday.

No. 53 runs through to Charleston, S. C.,

via Central R. R., arriving Manning 6:58 p.

m., Lanes 7:37 p. m., Charleston 9:10 p. m.

Trains on Conway Branch leave Chad-

bourn 10:40 a. m., arrive at Conway

way 1:00 p. m., returning leave Conway at

2:25 p. m., arrive Chadbourn 4:55 p. m.

leave Chadbourn 2:00 p. m., arrive at Hub at

6:00 p. m., returning leave Hub 8:30 a. m.,

arrive at Chadbourn 9:15 a. m. Daily except

Sunday.

Trains on C. & D. R. R. leave Florence

8:55 a. m., 9:10 a. m. and 8:00 p. m., arrive

Darlington 9:28 a. m., 10:20 a. m. and 8:30 p.

m.; leave Darlington 9:31 a. m. and 10:40 a.

m., arrive Cheraw 10:40 a. m. and 12:30 p.

leave Cheraw 12:45 p. m., arrive Wadesboro

2:25 p. m. Returning leave Wadesboro 3:00

p. m., arrive Cheraw 4:45 p. m., leave Cheraw

4:45 p. m. and 5:15 p. m., arrive Darlington

7:10 p. m. and 6:23 p. m., leave Darlington 7:45

p. m., 6:27 p. m. and 7:45 a. m.; arrive Florence

8:15 p. m., 6:55 p. m. and 8:15 a. m. Daily except

Sunday. Sunday trains leave

Florence 7:30 a. m., Darlington 7:45 a. m., arrive

Florence 8:10 a. m. Returning leave Flo-

rence 9:00 a. m.; Darlington 9:30 a. m., arrive

Florence 9:40 a. m. Trains leave Gibson

6:15 a. m., Bennettsville 6:41 a. m., arrive Dar-

lington 7:40 a. m., Sumter 9:25 a. m. Return-

ing leave Sumter 7:20 p. m., Darlington 9:10

p. m., arrive Bennettsville 10:01 p. m., Gibson

10:25 p. m.

JOHN F. DIVINE, Gen'l Supt.

J. R. KENLY, Gen'l Manager.

T. M. EMERSON, Traffic Manager

Wilson and Summerton R. R.

In effect January 15th, 1896.

TRAINS GOING NORTH.

No. 72.*

Leave Wilsons Mill

" Jordan,

" Davis,

" Summerton,

" Millard,

" Silver,

" Packsville,

" Tindal,

" W. & S. June,

Ar. Sumter,

TRAINS GOING SOUTH.

No. 73.*

Leave Sumter,

" W. & S. June,

" Tindal,

" Packsville,

" Silver,

" Millard,

" Summerton,

" Davis,

" Jordan,

Ar. Wilson Mill,

Trains between Millard and St. Paul leave

Millard 10:15 a. m. and 3:45 p. m., arriving

St. Paul 10:25 a. m. and 3:55 p. m. Returning

leave St. Paul 10:35 a. m. and 4:10 p. m., and

arrive Millard 10:45 a. m. and 4:20 p. m. Dai-

ly except Sunday.

*Daily except Sunday.

THOMAS WILSON

President.

Atlantic Coast Line.

North-Eastern R. R. of S. C.

CONDENSED SCHEDULE.

TRAINS GOING SOUTH.

Dated Dec. 13, 1896.

No. 35. No. 23. No. 53. No. 51.

A. M. P. M. A. M. A. M.

Le. Florence

" Kingstree

Ar. Lanes

Le. Lanes

Ar. Charl'tn

A. M. P. M. P. M. P. M.

TRAINS GOING NORTH.

No. 78. No. 32. No. 52. No. 50.

A. M. P. M. A. M. P. M.

Le. Charl'tn

Ar. Lanes

Le. Lanes

Ar. Florence

A. M. P. M. A. M. P. M.

*Daily. †Daily except Sunday.

No. 52 runs through to Columbia via Cen-

tral R. R. of S. C.

Trains Nos. 78 and 32 run via Wilson and

Fayetteville—Short Line—and make close

connection for all points North.

J. R. KENLY, JNO. F. DIVINE,

Gen'l Manager, Gen'l Supt.,

T. M. EMERSON, Traffic Manager.

Ohio River & Charleston Railway Co

SAMUEL HUNT, Agent for Purchaser.

In effect January 4, 1896.

CAROLINAS DIVISION.

NORTHBOUND.—(Daily except Sunday.)

No. 33. No. 11.

Lv Camden

Ar. Kershaw

Lv Kershaw

Lv Lancaster

Lv Catawba Junction

Ar. Rock Hill

Lv Rock Hill

Lv Yorkville

Lv Blacksburg

Lv Patterson Springs

Lv Shelby

Lv Rutherfordton

Ar. Marion

SOUTH BOUND.—(Daily except Sunday.)

No. 32. No. 10.

Lv Marion

Lv Rutherfordton

Lv Shelby

Lv Patterson Springs

Ar. Blacksburg

Lv Blacksburg

Ar. Rock Hill

Lv Rock Hill

Lv Catawba Junction

Lv Lancaster

Ar. Kershaw

Lv Kershaw

Ar. Camden

Dinner at Kershaw.

CONNECTIONS

No. 32 has connection with the Chester &